



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TechPoint Foundation Announces Request for Information from Indiana 501(c)(3) Organizations.

The TechPoint Foundation's mission is to help Indiana's at-risk youth develop the skills needed for success in the global information economy. As a social venture philanthropy organization, we invest in community programs that share our mission and have high-impact potential.

Venture Philanthropy, as defined by Wikipedia, takes concepts and techniques from venture capital finance and high technology business management and applies them to achieving philanthropic goals. Venture philanthropy is characterized by:

- Willingness to experiment and try new approaches
- Focus on measurable results
- Giving financial, intellectual, and human capital
- Funding on a multi-year basis
- High involvement by donors with their grantees

The TechPoint Foundation is seeking information from 501(c)(3) entities interested in helping Indiana's at-risk youth population acquire the 21st century skills needed for success in school, career and life. We define at-risk youth as those youth at-risk for economic failure due to an inability to compete in today's complex global information economy. We are interested in programs, projects, or partnerships that focus on the "4 C's" as defined by The Partnership for 21st Century Skills:

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: promotes logic and reasoning
- Communication: promotes oral, verbal, non-written skills, and effective use of multi-media and technologies
- Collaboration: ability to work effectively leading or as a member of diverse teams
- Creativity and Innovation: ability to elaborate, refine, analyze and evaluate ideas

TechPoint Foundation is looking for multi-year partnerships with non-profit organizations seeking opportunities to start, grow or enhance programs focused on 21st century skills. TechPoint Foundation seeks to develop true multi-year partnerships with our grantees, where our collective expertise and community connections are leveraged to ensure the maximum return on investment for our donors. TechPoint Foundation encourages organizations to collaborate, and will consider joint RFI submissions. TechPoint Foundation is not interested in merely funding the purchase of equipment, additional staff or existing program expenses in isolation.

TechPoint Foundation's grant making is based on endowment fund availability, and donor response to our targeted social venture campaigns. TechPoint Foundation's past commitments have ranged annually from \$10,000-\$150,000.

Our current social venture (2006-2011), New Tech High @ Arsenal Tech, excited TechPoint Foundation board members and donors with its technology-supported, project-based learning approach to 21st century education and its overall impact on student engagement. New Tech High is a secondary level, magnet option of Indianapolis Public Schools located on the historic Arsenal Technical High School campus. The program teaches state standards within 21st century themes to a primarily low-income, urban population. To date, TechPoint Foundation has provided more than \$400,000 in financial and in-kind support to New Tech High @ Arsenal Tech, leveraging an additional \$100,000 in support from our community partners.

Submissions should:

- Be two to three pages in length
- Include a brief description of the organization, mission, history, and population served
- Describe how 21st century skills (4 C's) will be reflected in program methods, activities
- Describe the program participants – age, gender, income, need for skill development
- Include opportunities available for tech sector volunteers to get involved

Please note that we are not expecting a detailed program proposal, but ideas on how to take 21st century skills from concept to reality for Indiana youth

RFI should be sent by email c/o Laura Dodds, Executive Director, to laura@techpointfoundation.org by August 18, 2010.

Next Steps:

TechPoint Foundation will identify three to six big picture ideas they are interested in further exploring. TechPoint Foundation will work closely with these final selections to further vet each organization's idea. A select group of organizations may be asked to produce a "Pecha Kucha" style presentation in mid-November to key TechPoint Foundation stakeholders. Funding considerations will be made in late December 2010. All organizations submitting a RFI will be notified in late September of their status. No phone calls please.

Additional Information can be found at:

TechPoint Foundation: www.techpointfoundation.org

Venture philanthropy. (2010, May 16). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 17:54, July 20, 2010, from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Venture_philanthropy&oldid=362464164

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills. (2010, July 20). In *Skills Framework, Framework for 21st Century Learning*. Retrieved 14:58, July 20, 2010 from http://www.p21.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=254&Itemid=120

Pecha Kucha. (2010, June 16). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 16:13, July 22, 2010, from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Pecha_Kucha&oldid=368281838